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APRIL 18, 2012

Parent Workshops at IS 528 and MS 258 Community Action

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We recently conducted Parent Workshops at two of our partner schools in Manhattan, IS 528 in Washington Heights and MS 258 Community Action School on the Upper West Side. These hands-on arts workshops give our students' families the opportunity to experience what students have been working on in our programs.

At IS 528, we held two music-related workshops- a digital music production class led by teaching artist Karamba Sise and a drumming workshop taught by Harold Akyeampong. In Karamba's workshop, parents listened to examples of original music created by the students and then explored making their own tracks in GarageBand. In Harold's workshop, parents explored using congas to create various rhythms with their hands and drumsticks. A short video clip of the group working a beat using drumsticks is below:

Staff Picks



Teaching artist Katherine Toukhy also led parents through a visual arts workshop that used the work of Haitian and Dominican artist Fireili Baez as inspiration for participants to create original pieces in watercolor and collage that celebrated the female form. The group enjoyed experimenting with watercolor technique and creating their own works that reflected the way that Baez reflects her cultural identity in her work.







At MS 258 Community Action School, the workshop centered around issues related to bullying and cyber-bullying. Students and parents came together to discuss the kinds of behaviors that constitute bullying, and how cyber-bullying is different from other kinds of bullying behavior. After viewing examples of web videos created by young people to tell their stories of how they overcame challenges related to bullying, the group created their own video to help spread a positive anti-bullying message:

The logo features a central dark purple rounded rectangle containing the text "urban arts partnership" in white lowercase letters. This rectangle is surrounded by several overlapping, irregular, organic shapes in various colors: orange, pink, red, brown, purple, blue, and green. The overall shape is roughly circular but with soft, flowing edges.

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